

The Croton-on-Hudson **Village Newsletter**

February 2005

Number 69

February **Calendar**

- 15** Grievance Day
- 15** Village Board Mtg.
- 1 & 22** Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 2** Cons. Advisory Council
- 9** Zoning Board
- 16** Water Control Comm.
- 16** Visual Environ. Bd.
- 21** President's Day

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Works in Progress

Two projects, seemingly unrelated to each other, are in the planning and implementation stages right now. Dredging of the basin at the Yacht Club and the creation of a multi-use field at Croton Landing are both to be undertaken



Siltation to be dredged at Yacht Club

this year. Because of logistics and also, in an effort make use of the dredge materials, the Yacht Club dredging must be completed first.

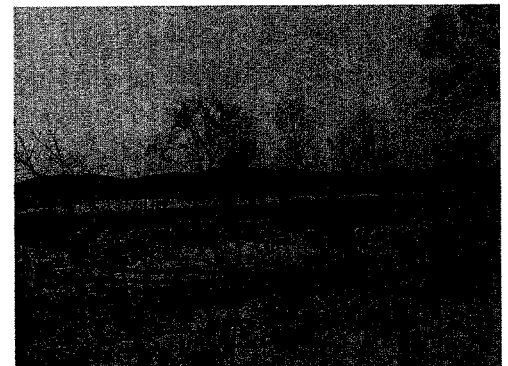


The hydraulic dredge.

The dredging project will restore the basin to its historic water depth of 6' below mean low water and regain about 20 usable boat slips by removing years of siltation coming through the culvert into the basin from the Brook St. stream. The culvert, itself, will also be cleaned at this time as it has become partially blocked with debris over the years.

The \$173,000 project, to which the Yacht Club is contributing \$90,000, has been in the study and planning stages for over a year. It required approval from

the NYSDEC, US Army Corps of Engineers and the Village's Waterfront Advisory Commission and the Water Control Commission. The dredging started in mid-January and will remove approximately 6900 cubic yards of material. It is



Multi-use field site.

being done by Aqua Dredge, Inc. of Armonk, N.Y. The dredged materials will be pumped via pipes to the area of Croton Landing which is eventually slated to become a multi-use field. Temporary berms have been constructed there to contain the dredge material during its de-watering.

Several months will be needed for the material to dry out enough for its use as the base for the proposed field. This time period is somewhat weather dependent. The dried material will end up about 1/2 the volume of the wet material and has been chemically tested.

At the completion of the de-watering phase, the material will be spread over the area of the proposed field, new top soil brought in and spread to raise and cover it, and grass planted.

The multi-use field concept, also referred to as a Great Lawn, is to create a large grassy area, properly pitched for drainage, which can be used for recreation by many

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"Make & Take" Super Science Program

During the Winter school break, the Recreation Dept. is offering an exciting science program for youth in grades 1-3. On Tuesday, Feb. 22, from 9am to 3pm, participants will be able to make a wide variety of toys that are designed to teach science concepts and make learning fun. All of the projects can be taken home. Make ice cream. Build a working model of Hero's Fountain or a tornado. Construct a real electric motor and learn how it works. Make green flubber, glowing slime, and a lava blob! Make an energy bead bracelet and watch the beads turn from white to a rainbow of colors. It is fun and educational.

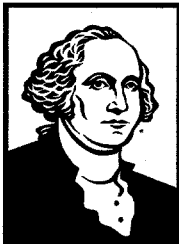
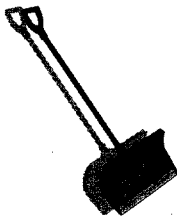
The registration deadline is February 18th. The fee is \$53./\$63. for residents/non-residents. Registration forms are available at the Recreation Office in the Municipal Building and on the back page of the Recreation Dept.'s Winter 2005 booklet that was mailed to you. Call 271-3006 for more information.

Croton Seniors News Items

Inclement Weather - In case of inclement weather, if the Croton-Harmon Schools are closed, the Croton Senior Club meetings will be canceled.

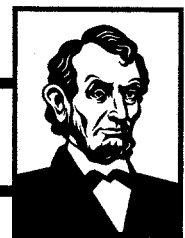
Trip Policy and Procedure - Beginning in January 2005, payment for Senior programs was divided into two categories: Village of Croton residents and non-residents. Club members who are School District residents, who pay the \$12. annual donation, will be required to pay a slightly higher rate than Croton Village residents who pay the \$6. annual donation to the Club. This will help to offset the costs incurred by the Village which are paid through Village tax dollars. This change makes the Seniors policy consistent with the general fee structure of the Recreation & Parks Dept.

Snow Shoveling - Senior citizens in Croton who need to have someone shovel their walkways or driveway can call Nora Hogan at the Town of Cortlandt at 528-8377 to make arrangements.



Reminder!

The Village Offices will be closed on Monday, February 21 for Presidents' Day



Ice Skating



Unsupervised ice skating is permitted on the Duck Pond, **Weather Permitting**. The Recreation Dept. requires 6" of ice for skating. A **Green** flag indicates the ice is safe. A **Red** flag indicates it is unsafe and skating is not permitted.

Multi-use Field cont'd.

groups. Permanent sports accoutrements such as baseball backstops, goal posts/ nets or bleachers will not be installed. However its use by teams for practices or the games of younger teams can be accommodated with temporary goals, bases, etc. It is hoped that its use for these activities, as well as some adult team uses, will provide some relief in the tight scheduling of the Village's other playing fields.



The exact arrangements for the scheduling of its use are not in place yet but its uses and scheduling will be handled through the Village Recreation Dept. It is anticipated that the multi-use field will have unscheduled time during which it will be free for more passive uses by people seeking riverfront relaxation.

The projected size of the field is approximately 300 feet by 180 feet. The project will likely also result in some parking improvements as well as a place to store temporary sports paraphernalia. The Village has applied for a 50/50 grant from NYSDEC to defray the cost of a larger project that would include a bathroom facility. That facility is not part of the current field construction project.

If the current construction schedule is maintained for both the dredging project and the new field construction, the new field/lawn space should be available in spring 2006.

Spotlight on Christa Callaghan

Christa Callaghan is one of the Village's more recent employees. In December, 2003, Christa was hired as a full-time Recreation Ass't. after several months on a part-time basis.

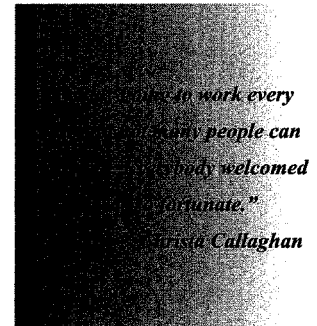
Born in Rego Park, Queens, she moved to Florida as a child where she completed her education at Nova Southeastern University in Early Childhood Education. After teaching kindergarten in Florida for two years, she married her husband, Keith, and moved to Ossining—his hometown.

In her job as Recreation Ass't., Christa works with the other Recreation Dept. staff members on all aspects of the Dept.'s programs.

One of her responsibilities this past summer was to identify and hire entertainers for the summer Family Entertainment Series. As the series is funded by donations, the entertainment expenses had to match the amount of the donations. Christa particularly likes organizing and organizational challenges. This makes her well suited to her job. She assists with all aspects of programs including sign-ups, press releases, flyers for the schools, identification of instructors or leaders, locating materials and scheduling times and places. Christa also performs secretarial duties such as ordering supplies, phone answering and correspondence.

Coming into a new community not knowing anyone was eased considerably, according to Christa, by the fact that her fellow workers are not only "great people but have become great friends."

In her spare time, Christa is enjoying getting to know the area and finds the 'small town' life very different and pleasant. "It's nice to run into people you know." She misses the beach a lot. She and her husband volunteer their time at the Briarcliff Youth Center on many weekends where they supervise youth activities. She also enjoys music, dancing and shopping.



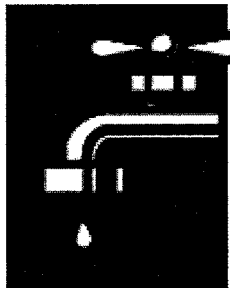
Harmon Water Main Replacement

This spring, following a competitive bidding process, the Village will retain a qualified construction company to replace water mains in the Harmon area of the village. Although scheduled to have occurred last spring, delays in getting Westchester County Dept. of Health approvals delayed the project.

The proposed project consists of replacing old, undersized, and corroded water mains, valves, fire hydrants and services (from the new main to the curb line). The components of the water supply system have reached the end of their service life resulting in increased maintenance and deteriorating water quality. The new pipe will replace old unlined pit cast iron pipe and undersized galvanized pipe installed in the 1920' and 30's.

The project will be performed in stages beginning with the main line replacements on Benedict Blvd., Oneida Ave., and Hastings Ave.

The initial construction phase will last about eight months.



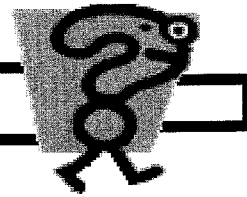
During construction, residents can expect some disruptions in water service as well as construction activity on the roads and right-of-ways. The Village will make a concerted effort to advise residents of planned shutdowns in advance and to keep these outages to no more than four hours in length.

As part of the project, the Village will be improving the character of the Harmon area by restoring the three-foot planting strip between the street and the sidewalk, installing additional drainage basins, and planting additional trees.

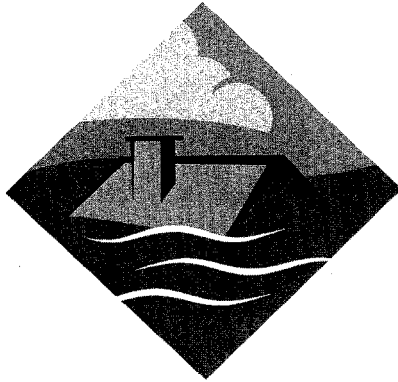
Prior to the start of construction, the Village and the contractor will hold a public informational meeting for residents affected by the project.

We're on
the Web. Visit us at:
<http://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov>

Got a Question?



With all the emergency situations that have been in the news recently - mud slides, flooding, train wrecks, hurricanes, etc. it seems we need to be prepared for these events. Is there a way for the Village to obtain state or federal money to help mitigate these hazards?



If such a catastrophic event were to occur, Croton would, like other places, be eligible for relief through FEMA. But FEMA also is asking communities to develop a Hazard Mitigation Plan as another way to pre-

pare for these events. With such a plan, Croton would benefit by being eligible for grant funds enabling it to devise and implement plans for mitigating future disasters.

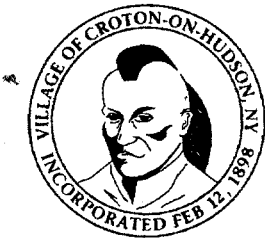
The Village has written a draft Hazard Mitigation plan which has been submitted to the NYS Emergency Management Office. Once approved, Croton would become eligible for hazard mitigation funding. The proposed plan has been worked on over several months by a committee composed of representatives from the Police and Fire Depts., the DPW Superintendent, Village Engineer and Village Manager. Public input is required as part of developing this plan.

A copy of this draft Hazard Mitigation Plan is on the website:

http://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/Public_Documents/CrotonHudsonNY_Mgr/HazardMit and also in the Village office.

The Village would welcome your review and comments on the draft plan. Please mail comments to Janine King at the Village Office or use the citizen comments form on the Village website (lower right hand corner on the home page).

February 2005



Published for the Residents of the Village of Croton-on- Hudson

Robert W. Elliott, Mayor
Georgianna K. Grant, Trustee
Charles Kane, Trustee
Gregory J. Schmidt, Trustee
Leo A. W. Wiegman, Trustee

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